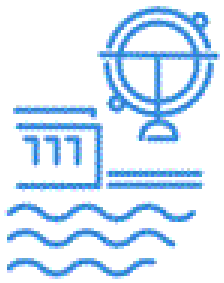


Item 5 (b)

Supporting the development of agreements and the establishment of Joint bodies

Komlan Sangbana
Water Convention Secretariat



1. Main achievements



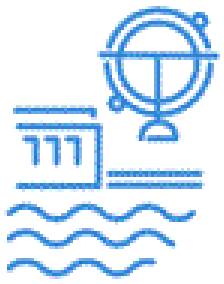
- MOP-9 adopted the Practical Guide for the Development of Agreements or Other Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation and invited Parties, the secretariat and Partners to promote and apply
- Practical Guide aimed at supporting countries in the **design and drafting** of agreements or other arrangements for transboundary waters
- Focus on **content and drafting options** rather than on process
- **Target audience:** State representatives, legal and technical experts, decision-makers involved in negotiation of agreements or other arrangements for transboundary waters, the staff of river basin organizations, regional organizations, and other stakeholders working on transboundary cooperation and water diplomacy are the target audience of the Practical Guide.



1. Main achievements – Interactive Online Session to introduce the Practical Guide



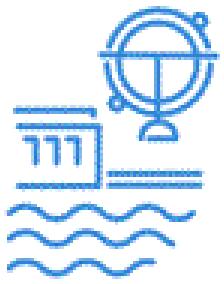
- Virtual Session co-organized with the Global Water Partnership (GWP), the Wuhan International Water Law Academy (IWLA), and Northumbria University School of Law (16th February 2022)
- Exploring the importance of design in the development and implementation of agreements and other arrangements on transboundary waters:
 - ✓ How design might affect an agreement's performance
 - ✓ How the Practical Guide can potentially help in drafting new or improving existing transboundary water agreements.
- Active participation of Countries, RBOs, Academia in sharing experience; interest expressed in applying the Practical Guide



1. Main achievements – promotional activities at the regional and national levels



- **The Practical Guide was promoted at several capacities building activities** at regional level in MENA, LAC and Africa (SMAB meetings, regional discussion related to the basin agreement between Chad and Cameroon on Logone River, November 2022, Workshop “Pursuing Equitable Transboundary Water Arrangements”, Amman, Jordan, November 2021, regional workshop on transboundary waters in Central America, May 2022) and national accession workshops (Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Namibia)
- **Requests received from countries, partners** to apply the Practical Guide for revision or development of new legal frameworks

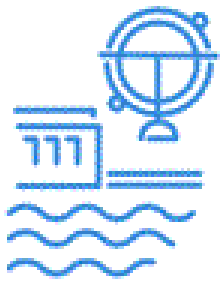


2. Planned activities for this area of work in 2022-2024



Lead Parties: Hungary and Germany

- The “Practical Guide on the development of agreements and arrangements for transboundary water cooperation” will be **further developed into an online toolkit**, with good practices collected, links to agreements, etc.
- **Two regional or basin workshops** on developing agreements and establishing joint bodies will be organized to support cooperation processes, promoting the “Practical Guide on the development of legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation” and the “Principles for Effective Joint Bodies for Transboundary Water Cooperation”, and facilitating the exchange of experiences



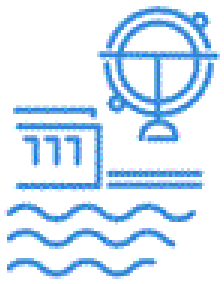
2. Planned activities for this area of work in 2022-2024



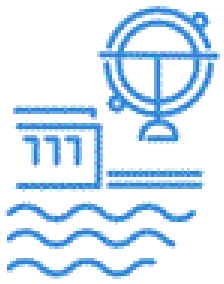
Lead Parties: Hungary and Germany

- Upon request from the concerned countries and pending the availability of resources, a number of **basin-level projects supporting the development of agreements and strengthening of institutions** will be implemented. Possible basins for the implementation of such projects include the **Lake Chad basin and the Lake Kivu/Ruzizi River basin, the Bug-Neman, Chu-Talas, Dniester, Drin, Euphrates and Tigris, Luapula River, Mono, Okavango-Cubango, as well as the Ocotepeque and Senegalo-Mauritanian aquifer basin**
- **Activities will also include support to regional cooperation**, such as work on dam safety and water quality in Central Asia, support to regional economic communities in Africa and in Latin America for the development of regional frameworks for water cooperation

Partners and donors



Thank you



Secretariat: water.convention@un.org ; komlan.sangbana@un.org



For more information: <https://www.unece.org/env/water/>



Twitter: [@UNECE_Water](https://twitter.com/UNECE_Water)



Facebook: [@UNECEWater](https://www.facebook.com/UNECEWater)



LinkedIn: [@UNECEWater](https://www.linkedin.com/company/UNECEWater)

